# New York Tribune.

First to Last—the Truth: News—Editorials—Advertisements.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1915.

Owned and published daily by The Tribune Association, a New York corporation. Ogden M. Reid, President; G. Vernor Rogers, Secretary and Treasurer. Address Tribune Building, No. 154 Nassau st., New York.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES—By Mail, Postage Paid, outside of Greater New York

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Daily and Sunday, 1 month | $ .75 | Daily only, 1 month | $ .50 |
| Daily and Sunday, 6 months | 4.25 | Daily only, 6 months | 2.65 |
| Daily and Sunday, 1 year | 8.50 | Daily only, 1 year | 5.00 |
| Sunday only, 6 months | 1.25 | Sunday only, 1 year | 2.50 |

| FOREIGN RATES. DAILY AND SUNDAY: | | CANADIAN RATES. DAILY AND SUNDAY: | |
|---|---|---|---|
| One month | $1.00 | One month | $ .75 |
| One year | 12.00 | One year | 8.50 |
| SUNDAY ONLY: | | DAILY ONLY: | |
| Six months | 1.25 | One month | .75 |
| One year | 2.50 | One year | 6.50 |
| DAILY ONLY: | | SUNDAY ONLY: | |
| One month | 1.00 | One month | .60 |
| One year | 10.00 | One year | 4.50 |

Entered at the Postoffice at New York as Second Class Mail Matter.




## From the Imperishable Frontier.

The simple, home-loving American, confused, bewildered, stricken in all his senses by a war of worlds and a world of war news, must infallibly welcome the reappearance on the warpath of the old familiar friend of his childhood, of all youth, the redskin.

Nations in arms, 42-centimetre guns, Zeppelins and submarines, these pass swiftly from our vision as the mirage of the most arid of all deserts. We go back joyfully from Bernhardi to Fenimore Cooper, from the Vistula and the Carpathians to the Great Muddy and the Rockies that lie beyond.

Piutes and posses, redskins and cowboys, with a few bandits for good measure, all the brave circumstances of older and better times, behold them streaming back to the front page, routing Hindenburg, sending Joffre and Sir John French fleeing down the turn column to the inside pages. This is a real victory—and a welcome one.

Only the other day a whole nation was saddened by the news of the passing of one more of the immortally famous family of Jesse James. More and more civilization has stretched its wire fences across the frontier and turned the prairie over to Kansan Progressives. Day by day the Middle West has grown less interesting to become more pre-eminent. At home, abroad, the hateful doctrine has established itself that men, to be killed properly, must be murdered by machines, not by men.

Thanks to the noble Piutes, there is now disclosed one lingering, perhaps final, vision of the ancient and finer days—one more protest of a magnificent yesterday is thrust down the brazen throat of a 42-centimetre world.

The police and the Wilson administration will probably make short work of the Piute. His last reservation will be occupied by busy factories for "new ideas" and statesmen will supplant warriors. But his last vehement protest touches us—moves us. Like the cowboy, he is going from the Ogallalla trail, but our hearts go with him. He takes with him too much of the sum of all things interesting, appealing, to make his going anything less than a national calamity.

## Sign Posts at Albany.

In a little more than a year Republicans all over this nation will assail the national Democratic administration for an incapacity to govern daily becoming more unmistakable. It has been a long time since the country could agree with the Democrats at Washington, and now it is clear that they are utterly incapable of agreeing among themselves.

On March 4, as our Washington correspondent pointed out yesterday, the enormous majority of the Army of New Freedom in the House of Representatives will dwindle to an insignificant but not unorganized company mustered in Fourteenth Street and commanded by John J. Fitzgerald. It is, then, not difficult to foresee that Democratic solidarity will not grow with coming months.

These facts should serve as eloquent sign posts to the Republican majority in Albany. In the next month they will have to choose between disposing of public business promptly, efficiently, intelligently and imitating the Democrats in a factional quarrel, not over any question of principle, but over the pettiest of patronage.

The best thing that can happen to the Republican party in this state is an early adjournment of the Legislature, a demonstration of honest and efficient party government in a place where both honesty and efficiency have been of museum rarity in recent years.

Those legislators who are looking forward to Republican prosperity in the early future should lay the axe to appropriations, put the muzzle on orators and, the necessary tasks completed, go home, assured of the approval of an electorate tired of everything that accelerates the speed and increases the industry of the tax gatherer.

Four years of trial proved that the Democrats could not run the government of this state. What began in factional fights continued in scandals and culminated in failure. The Democrats were driven out of power on their own record, their own performances. The chance that popular wrath at their opponents gave the Republicans remains to be improved—accepted. The session at Albany has now reached the point where success or failure must soon be established.

Will those whose responsibility is inescapable neglect to observe the sign posts?

## A Longer Term for the Health Commissioner.

Few New Yorkers realize how dependent is their health on the efficiency and honesty of the Health Department. In this highly congested community of 5,000,000 souls we are like so many apples in a barrel—the soundness of each is the concern of the whole. Too busy and ignorant to bother about it as a whole, we have delegated this concern to the Health Department.

One of the requisite bases of good health in a community is wholesome food. Commissioner Goldwater says: "There are decent food manufacturers in New York City—some that are a credit to the city. But there are others so disgracefully foul and rotten that there would be a riot if the truth were known."

To keep the rotten food manufacturers from deceiving us and weakening us with their unsanitary and adulterated wares is one of the great functions and problems of the Health Department. It is a function requiring tireless industry and not only an expert knowledge of food values and adulterants but a thorough acquaintance with producers and the tricks of the trade. Dr. Goldwater points out that one Health Commissioner no sooner gets the requisite training and experience than he is replaced by another. After his own retirement he wants the term of the office to be made indefinite.

There is great force in the Commissioner's argument. But experts permanently placed get into ruts and become reactionary. Would not a long, fixed term similar to that of a Supreme Court justice work better all around?

## Far from a Bankrupt.

Controller Prendergast's annual report gives the lie to many gloomy reports of this city's financial condition. The debt limit has increased some $5,000,000 in the last year. There is available for public improvements more than $19,000,000 not yet apportioned for these purposes. These are healthy signs.

In view of this showing the proposed legislative investigation of New York's "bankruptcy" seems rather beside the point. This city is quite competent to handle its own money affairs. Its treasury is not empty and, as the administration gradually puts into practice its purpose of retiring short-term obligations through the annual budgets, will become healthier.

With the large proportion of state taxes which it has to pay, New York's outgo depends in no inconsiderable measure on legislative action. If, therefore, Albany is at all alarmed about the solvency of the metropolis, it can manifest its solicitude for the citizens here in a simple and highly practical manner.

Rigid economy in state appropriations, which will hold down the rate of the state's direct tax, will do more for New York's taxpayers than the proposed legislative investigation of the city's financial affairs could be expected by the widest stretch of imagination to do.

## The Importance of Keeping Cool.

Now that the United States has clearly defined its attitude toward encroachments on its rights as a neutral it becomes the first duty of the government and the public not to be stampeded by any threat of trouble. We must keep cool and think straight. We are sure of our position, because it is based on the fundamental principles of international law. We have nothing to gain, and a good deal to lose, if, on what only looks like a provocation, we begin to see red and talk intemperately.

The calmness with which the sinking of the Evelyn has been taken is very reassuring. Nobody has tried to magnify that incident into a grievance against Germany which demands instant attention. Our government, especially as it is the insurer of the lost vessel, is justified in trying to get at the facts of the disaster. But it is sensible in holding that nothing in the nature of a diplomatic protest is necessary.

The Evelyn was carrying cotton to a German port. She was in German waters which had been mined for purposes of defence, and whether she had a German pilot aboard or not she was subject to the risk of encountering a detached mine. That is one of the chances of navigation in the home waters of a belligerent. It was not to Germany's interest to destroy the ship. On the contrary, Germany was anxious to see the Evelyn's cargo of cotton safely landed.

In this war it is going to be very difficult to bring home to any belligerent responsibility for the loss of a neutral vessel sunk by a mine. The Hague Convention of October 18, 1907, put many restrictions on the use of submarine contact mines. But that convention was not ratified by all of the European belligerents, and by its own terms it was to be applicable "only if all the belligerents are parties to the convention."

In the Russo-Japanese war mines were scattered freely in the high seas, and there is now no very definite international restriction on their employment. It is next to impossible, also, to say whose mine it was that sank a particular ship.

So far as losses through mines are concerned a neutral will have to go very slow in trying to enforce reparation. The same embarrassment, of course, does not exist in dealing with attacks made on neutral merchantmen by submarines, which attacks do not differ from those made by any other type of vessel under the flag of a belligerent. No excuse for torpedoing a neutral vessel can be found in the law of nations.

As with mines, so it is with contraband. As long as goods are declared contraband by proclamation and are seized and sent to a prize court in accordance with international practice, neutrals can make no very serious complaint. The prize courts try to hold a fair balance between neutral rights and belligerent rights, and after the prize court's decision is given there remains the remedy of diplomatic protest, with a recourse to arbitration. The United States in entering into arbitration treaties with other nations committed itself to a deliberate solution of all controversies arbitrable in their nature, and contraband disputes are certainly arbitrable.

Those who fear that the United States will be drawn suddenly into a diplomatic crisis with one or other of the European belligerents should consider the restraints we have put upon hasty action on our part and be comforted. By keeping our heads and avoiding snap judgments we shall help to maintain peace here and to restore peace more quickly to distracted and devastated Europe.

## Bernhardt, Quand Même.

Some years ago Sarah Bernhardt, returning from the conquest of the Lone Star State, moved Paris by the Texas version of that fine French phrase that decorates every monument to the memory of the soldiers of 1870-'71, *"Quand Même."* "'Spite of Hell" was the Texan translation, the best our own language can provide.

To-day the phrase may be read, "Bernhardt. *Quand Même."* In a note written in advance of her trial she tells a friend she has published two letters in America, one denouncing the Kaiser, the other castigating the Emperor of Austria. There is nothing strange in this. The woman who has defied time and age for years so many it is indelicate to mention them will not shrink from Hapsburg or Hohenzollern.

Brave Sarah, the homage of a world, which is still at your feet, is yours! Are you not the Grandmother of the Republic? On this side of the water you seem a bigger man than old Joffre. What difference how they walk who can fly?

## The Conning Tower

### THE GRAND TOUR

Chicago.

"Little or no time," blurbs the railroad's booklet, "is spent in transit that could be utilized to profitable advantage in the business or professional field." Not wholly true. I could have utilized all the time spent in transit to profitable advantage, utilized it devoting it to my Art. But I dislike writing on the train, and I couldn't dictate to the train-stenographer. I was afraid of his eye, especially if I were going to dictate verse.

Why is it that everybody else on the train appears to be travelling on a Highly Important Mission?

Still, a glimpse at the headline in the paper I saw at breakfast gave me the impression that perhaps I was important enough to break into the front page. "Panama-Pacific Exposition Will Be Opened Today," it ran. But there wasn't a word about the Grand Tour.

But the Chicago Tribune had an editorial on "Seeing Chicago on the Way," which reassured me.

And the following words of wisdom appeared in Bert Taylor's column:

> If we were speaking to the freshman class of a college of journalism we might say something like this: Young gentlemen, journalism is an attractive profession. The rewards are infrequently large, yet men persist in it when they could do better outside it, and return to it after they succeed in escaping. The profession has its pleasures, and perhaps the keenest of these is the feeling that, if he deserve the confidence, a man may write what he will, without suggestion from the owners and managers of the newspaper on which he is employed.
>
> There must be many writers thus agreeably circumstanced; we know of at least one. Any writer so situated ought to feel a larger loyalty to his newspaper, and a larger responsibility for his writings, than if he were less free. Liberty oblige. And if he has—as in such hurried work he must have—occasion now and then to accuse himself of a want of temper, a piece of stupidity, or a sin against good taste, his self-reproach ought to be sharper than if the accusation came from another.
>
> A writer should be the sternest critic of his own work. And if with this austerity of criticism he can contrive to unite a modest estimate of his individual importance he will not go far wrong, and he will justify confidence when it is reposed in him. Moreover, his interest in his work will be kept alive, which is a matter of prime importance. When writing becomes perfunctory, any value which may have attached to it disappears.

As an expert investigator into business conditions I may have fallen down. The only man I interviewed was the train barber. "You're the first man I've shaved since I left Chicago, day before yesterday," he said. "The company tells us to talk optimism, but there's no use stalling. As far as I'm concerned, they can stop this war when they like."

F. P. A.

## Pasted Jewels

### EIGHTEEN.

When Little One was seven years
She lent me most attentive ears
The while I'd read from fairy lore,
And, never sated, asked for "More!"
She courted my society,
And nightly perched upon my knee;
Then we two footed, hand in hand,
The storied roads of Fairyland.

When seven more years had flitted by
We grew less chummy, she and I.
Her interest in fairies waned,
Though mine, and my belief, remained.
School friends pressed forward for my place,
Leaving me distanced in the race.
A nod, a smile, was all I drew—
Meekly accepted as my due.

That phase is past, I joy to say,
And we are chums again to-day.
We read, as once, but now 'tis she
Who holds the book, and reads to me;
Or, head to head, again we pore
On volumes of remembered lore,
And foot together, hand in hand,
The dappled dells of Fairyland.

The storied roads come soon or late
To where the Prince and chariot wait.
Remembering this, in Fairyland,
I hold her tightly by the hand.
But presently she'll slip away,
All on a silver summer day;
A nod, a smile—and she'll be gone
With Charming in his phaeton!

B. L. T. in The Chicago Tribune.

### PROGRESSIVE POETRY.

In another column to-day "The Gazette" prints some verses. They are from our own futurist poet. We long have thought that forward-looking poets should quit writing verses that rhyme at the end of the line, and begin writing forward rhyming verses. So we have put our own blacksmith on the job. He uses the De Laval method of separating his ideas from his verse and we think he has a fairly successful product. We shall offer it to the Allies, in the hope that it will end the war.

LOVE'S PLEADING.

O come my love, the jitney
Waits; the nickel's in
My purse. My sparker snaps at all the
Fates, for better or
For worse. Let's jit in joy while life
Is June; five coppers pays
The bill. So come and jitney neath
The moon, along the low grade
Hill. While all the world is smooth
As glass, while all our tires are
Spry, there's bliss in every quart
Of gas; let's hit life on
The high. So come and be my jitney
Queen; a nick is all my
Hoard. Who cares for grief or
Gasolene? Come mount
My trusty Ford.

—Emporia Weekly Gazette.

## SMELLING THE SMOKE.


# THE PEOPLE'S COLUMN

An Open Forum for Public Debate.

### SOME JOYS OF LIFE

**Newly Discovered by a Delighted Reader.**

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: When I made use of your generous offer to send copies of The Tribune to all interested in the honest advertising articles, I certainly did not expect to receive a newspaper so far different from The Tribune I knew of old.

It's three years since I left New York. During this time I had not seen a copy of your paper. This will account for the fact that I had to rub my eyes numerous times after reading the news and editorials and looking at the top of the page before believing I saw the old familiar "Tribune" there.

To read F. P. A. in the morning now! That ought to give any male worker a happy enough start to keep him from coming home a T. B. M. at six. Then to have a daily laugh with Briggs and once in so often to have real uplift in the form of Adams's Honest Business stuff shot into you; to read headings on news that really explain and not merely excite; and to see (this is the biggest surprise) that it's all for one cent—well, I didn't note your circulation figures, but if you haven't the greatest percentage of increase of all the metropolitan newspapers, it's because New Yorkers are not as wise to themselves as they used to be.

They have some pretty good papers out here. One of them, for instance, admits that it not only is the largest (size) in the country, but, all in all, the best. But, for me, five minutes suffice to finish it thoroughly. There's a good, solid half hour to be profitably spent with your reborn (or is it rejuvenated?) sheet. From Soup to Walnuts it deserves those "three rousing cheers" now being given to real merit from coast to coast.

I've stuck to two other New York papers for a long time. Haven't missed one of them for a day for nearly twenty years, but The Tribune is on my list from now on, and during these hard times one of them will have to "git," perhaps never to "come back."

W. M. STEIN.

Los Angeles, Cal., Feb. 9, 1915.

### NEUTRAL RIGHTS AT SEA

**The Courses of the Two Belligerents Compared.**

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Why should you accept without question England's declaration of a war zone in the North Sea and become so gravely concerned at a similar declaration from Germany? What has the size of the "war zone" to do with the matter?

You know, as does every intelligent person who has read the German declaration, that the warning to neutrals proceeded not from any intention or expectation that German mines or submarines would knowingly destroy neutral vessels, but because of the fact that England is using neutral flags to protect her own bottoms—a fact which, when first declared, many of us received incredulously, but which England has admitted, compelled to the confession because hundreds of passengers have witnessed the deceptions.

Why should you presume the honest intention of England in her war zone declaration and doubt the good faith of Germany in hers? Neither nation has done anything to warrant a doubt that its declaration is to be taken otherwise than literally.

The declaration of Germany justified the inquiry and warning of our government, and by the same token the previous declaration of England affecting the North Sea justified a similar inquiry to Great Britain, but it was not made.

Neither of these nations has a right to interfere with the freedom of the seas to neutral commerce; but—and here is a point which most of our citizens and newspapers strangely seem to forget—when war is declared all peace rules go by the board.

A warring nation beats its opponent in any way it can.

We all wish it were not so, but it is. War will cease when the world's average of intelligence rises sufficiently high to enforce rules of justice and humanity in war.

It is easier to enforce these principles in times of peace, thus preventing war, than to impose them upon nations already in a state of war.

Let us preserve our souls in patience; observe our neutrality—by force if necessary; compel all warring nations to treat us and our vessels with equal consideration and respect—at the muzzle of a 16-inch gun, if occasion demands.

Only sentiments such as these can successfully preserve our position as a neutral nation. Afterward, if we can assist in bringing about a readjustment of European frontiers along racial lines, an international court with an international army to enforce its decrees, and a rule that national frontiers shall only encroach upon adjoining territory as that territory becomes actually populated with nationals of the encroaching government, we will have done our part.

It is only through war that nations learn the blessings of real and substantial safeguards to peace.

If we guide our tongues and acts so that it is seen of all men that we are just and fair to the contending nations, the great opportunity may come to our country and to our people.

ANDREW COLVIN.

New York, Feb. 19, 1915.

### SCISSORS AS WELL AS INK

**Needed to Tame the Ferocious Submarine.**

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: To Walt McDougall, whose letter from Rockledge, Fla., written on the 16th, you printed this morning, I would say: "Even naval experts overlook things." In fact, it may be said to be a regular conning tower habit, not meaning to knock our distinguished contemporary on the left. Mr. McDougall, with his india ink squirts, has succeeded in darkening the sea and hiding the submarines from themselves, but he has overlooked the periscope, through which the beast's inmates can see everything on the surface of the sea—outside of a dark night. The periscope is out of the ink, and by its aid the fatal torpeys can be sent. Therefore I suggest that, in addition to large supplies of ink, each merchant vessel should be equipped bow and stern with shears large enough to clip the lens reflectors from periscopes with the ease of a June gentleman flicking fortune's dials from the daisy crop with his cane. Then the plight of the scuttlefish would indeed be serious, as the grain ships sailed serenely on to Liverpool and other hungry ports.

I can't sign my real name, because I had a letter in your paper the other day, too, but the N. E. stands for naval expert. Can't some one else help McDougall and me to bring about peace?

C. B. L., N. E.

New York City, Feb. 20, 1915.

### HE "HANDS US ONE"

**With a Philosophic Study in Newspaper Prices.**

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In to-day's Tower F. P. A. speaks of the right newspapers have to charge three cents a copy. I read "The Evening Post," and "just for that," as Heywood Broun says, I shall hand you one.

One cold day in February, 1914, I succumbed to the influence of the F. P. A. billboards and bought a copy of The Tribune. A few days later I went down to The Tribune office and asked for the issues of The Tribune prior to the day referred to. The man at the desk immediately sent a boy upstairs to get them for me. For the issues up to thirty days old I was charged, much to my surprise, the usual price of one cent a copy. For the issues over thirty days old I was charged ten cents a copy, which I gladly paid.

Yesterday, or just about a year later, I went to "The World" office and asked one of the young men lounging at the marble counter if I could get a copy of "The World" of the 26th of last month. He shifted his position slightly and referred me to one of the young men who were also lounging, about about ten feet to the right, against the same counter. I repeated my request, and was immediately told that they had no copies left of that date, but that I might get a copy at the news-stand in the Woolworth Building. And so I went to the Woolworth Building. And the man in the Woolworth Building, after looking at the calendar, informed me that a copy of "The World" of January 26 was twenty days old, and would therefore cost me twenty cents. It did NOT!

And so, as I said up above, I shall hand you one:

From First to Last: News, Editorials, Advertisements, and service to its readers—The Tribune!

WILLIAM WALLACE.

New York, Feb. 17, 1915.

### FOOD AS CONTRABAND

**A Demand That Great Britain Shall Declare Her Policy.**

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: A part of the American press, it seems to me, is doing a very unwise thing in gratuitously goading a friendly nation in desperate straits to such a degree that she will probably, sooner or later, retaliate with unfriendly, if not hostile, action against the United States. I am informed that the controlling owner of one of the greatest daily papers published in this city has explained the unfriendly attitude of his paper to Germany by the statement of his belief that in case Germany wins in this war she will take hostile action against us. But the unfriendly conduct of our press can have no part in bringing about Germany's defeat. I have heard many Americans give the same reason for their hostile expressions against Germany. Whatever may be our opinion of Germany, the fact remains that she is still a very powerful nation, whose defeat in this war is by no means certain. Are we not, for fear of an eruption, building a volcano under our feet?

Foodstuffs, I understand, are not contraband of war except when being sent for the subsistence of a belligerent's military or naval forces. The United States Supreme Court has said (1 Wheaton, 38) that by the modern law of nations foodstuffs were not generally contraband; that if they were destined for the ordinary uses of life in the enemy's country they were not contraband. For nearly a century England has upheld the same doctrine. The maintenance of the rule that foodstuffs for civil use are not contraband is of vital concern to the British government, because Great Britain, being a very densely populated island, is dependent upon foreign sources for her food supply in a very much greater degree than any other nation. If France and Germany, or either one of them, with another naval power, should wage war against England, Great Britain would within a period of a few months be starving if foodstuffs were contraband. It is likely, therefore, that the British government will hesitate for a long time before she brings (if she ever does) this question before her prize courts, in which she could win only by establishing a precedent which in the future might be used against her with very disastrous effect.

My opinion is that the British government is seizing our ships and property, under the guise of proceedings preliminary to the submission of the matter to her prize courts for adjudication, but in fact for ulterior purposes. It may be another of her so-called "war ruses."

Under all the circumstances, or even excluding my view, the British government having already seized American ships, our self-respect, our commercial interests and our relationship to other friendly powers require that we should demand from the British government without delay a definite statement whether or not she holds foodstuffs to be contraband, and that, whatever she may hold, she should proceed to a quick determination of the question.

It seems to me that the British government will attempt to accomplish by indirection what she cannot accomplish directly (without putting herself in this dilemma) by seizing ships and cargoes to such an extent as will deter shipments or cause the owners of seized cargoes to divert them from Germany to save themselves the losses resulting from delay and expenses; or she may offer to buy the cargoes at such prices as the owners, considering these losses and delays, will accept.

If the British government shall say it considers foodstuffs contraband only and when they are intended for army or navy uses, and if the British government is inclined to act fairly in the matter it can readily be settled, for Germany, has, I understand, offered to guarantee that the foodstuffs shipped to Germany shall be used only for civil purposes, and has further consented to have the disposal of such foodstuffs supervised by agents of the American government. It would seem that, for the protection of our commerce as well as for the sake of humanity, our government might well undertake such supervision.

Our failure to demand from the British government (after it has avowed its intention of inflicting on over 30,000,000 of women and children in Germany the horrors of famine) an immediate settlement of this matter of the shipment of foodstuffs to Germany, while we at the same time are making millions of dollars from shipments to the Allies, which we cannot make to Germany, of munitions and implements of war to be used for her destruction, must be very aggravating to Germany. In addition to this, we have made no energetic effort to prevent England from obtaining a great advantage over Germany in naval warfare by permitting the use of our flag on the English merchant marine. Such use of the American flag by English merchantmen would tend to make the capture by the German navy of English vessels more difficult and save many of them from capture, and would also make the operation of the German submarines more hazardous. Submarines are slow vessels, and therefore must strike and get away quickly. In the Irish Sea and in the English Channel it is quite likely that a submarine might find as many as three ships in sight at the same time. If these three vessels fly flags of neutral nations and one of them is English there is just one chance in three of a submarine getting the English vessel, as against an even chance in the case of the English vessel not flying the neutral flag, for so much time would elapse while the submarine was boarding and examining the papers of one of these vessels that the others would escape or that the submarine would have to take to her heels to escape destruction by English men of war which the English vessel would call for by wireless.

England proposes as a war measure to starve a nation of 66,000,000 people. Famine has rarely brought about a capitulation until, after the most horrible and long suffering, the strongest are brought to such a condition that they cannot bear arms. While the American people are considering this matter they should read again the history of some of the great sieges—say, Macaulay's description of the siege of Londonderry. We know the temper of the German people and that they will fight to the last man. England will have the rules of war for an answer to any criticism of her in this respect. But what answer will the American people have if by stopping their shipments of grain to the civil population of Germany, which we have a perfect right to make according to the law of nations, they take part in inflicting on more than 30,000,000 of women and children of a friendly nation the horrors of famine?

CHARLES S. SIMPSON.

New York, Feb. 15, 1915.